Dewan.—We have been spending money. Otherwise, how have all these roads been constructed? We will do what we can for Kayankulam. You cannot expect all the expenditure to be concentrated on Kayankulam.

In regard to the deepening and widening of the Tazhathodu, the matter requires investigation.

In regard to income tax, the inconvenience you pointed out will be enquired into.

72. Means of communication in the Kartikapalli taluk.

Mr. Kumaran Velayudhan (Member, Kartikapalli Taluk) began with a comparison of his taluk with other taluks of the State in the matter of revenue and population and gave some figures as regards the area and population of the taluk, as well as the receipts therefrom under the several items of revenue. The Member said that the people of his taluk were mostly agriculturists, and that, as the soil was not fertile, manure had to be transported from great distances which was not possible at present owing to the absence of good roads or canals. He complained that the Government had not yet done anything to redress their grievances in spite of repeated representations in the Assembly. He said he had nothing to add to what had already been placed before the Government and drew their pointed attention to the following roads:—

(1) *Kayankulam-Nangiarkulangara road.*—That road was 6 miles in length. It was a good approach road to the Kayankulam town. At present people could not conveniently travel from Kayankulam, and that defect could be removed if the said road was maintained in proper order.

(2) *Haripad-Tottapalli road.*—That was part of the Quilon-Alleppey road. The people of his taluk had to go to Alleppey for court business. Two miles of the above road were gravelled last year. When the Dewan inspected the place last year he had promised to arrange for its improvement, but not only was nothing done in that direction, but a diversion of Rs. 3,000 appeared to have been made from the provision of Rs. 14,000 made for the work in the current year's budget. The Member prayed that the road might be improved without further delay.

(3) *Trikkunnapuzha road.*—That road connected the Kartikapalli market with Trikkunnapuzha on the sea cost. The road which was two miles long was in a completely neglected and impassable condition. It was the only approach road to the Kartikapalli market. There was no other outlet road to convey fish for sale to Kayankulam, Mavelikara and other places from the Trikkunnapuzha sea coast. Traffic was seriously hampered by ruts and pits and the Member prayed that this road might also be repaired.

The Member next submitted that *thodus* were indispensable for the cultivation of the *punja* lands of the taluk and mentioned the following as requiring immediate attention.

(1) Mundattinkara *thodu* connecting the Kollakadavu river with the Nelpura *thodu via* Kodunthar. There were about 7,000 *paras* of *punja* lands to the east of the Nelpura, and the owners of the lands on either side of the *thodu* down the Nelpura had encroached upon the *thodu* and closed it, with the result that the quality of the *punja* soil had considerably deteriorated. The Member prayed that the said *thodu* might be repaired for the benefit of the *punja* lands affected.

The Tana *thodu* which ran across the middle of the taluk from north to south had become accessible for boat traffic only during the rainy season. That was the only means for the transport of manure to the lands on either side of the *thodu* as well as for merchandise from Alleppey to Haripad and other places. Some money was being spent by the Department of Public Works on its maintenance annually, but the result was unsatisfactory. He prayed that the *thodu* might be improved so as to afford facilities for canoe traffic throughout the year.

Dewan's reply.—Funds for the straight road from Kayankulam to Nangiarkulangara will be provided in the next year's budget. The main Ambalapuzha-Haripad road *via* Karuvatta and Tottapalli will be hurried up. After these two

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works are finished, the road from Kartikapalli to Trikkunnapuzha could be taken in hand. We shall, however, see if this road cannot also be improved in portions where it is wide. In regard to the Mundattinkara *thodu*, the necessary investigation will be made. The Tana *thodu* is being improved from the maintenance grant and the necessary special repairs will also be carried out.

73. Facilities for communication with special reference to the Haripad – Elanjimel road and the junction of the Kutilil thodu with the Tana thodu.

Mr. M. R. Velu Karanavar (Member, Municipal Council, Haripad) began by saying that the Kartikapalli taluk was entitled to special consideration at the hands of the Government on account of its importance in the matter of revenue and population and of the peculiar burdens the taluk was subjected to at the time of the last settlement. He complained that proper attention was not paid to the works recommended by the conference of members held in 1914 under the presidency of the then Chief Engineer Mr. Jacob. He was thankful to the Government for having sanctioned the Haripad-Ambalapuzha road and prayed that arrangements might be made for completing the work during the current year, at least as far as Tottapalli. He then recommended the following works for the attention of the Government.

1. *Haripad-Elanjimel road.* That road which connected the three taluks of Kartikapalli, Mavelikara and Tiruvalla started from Nangiarkulangara, passed through the villages of Chennittala, Mannar, Kuttamperur, Ennakad, etc., and ended at Elanjimel, a village about 2½ miles from Chengannur. The whole distance was only 8 miles, and if it could be constructed, it would benefit the vast concourse of people that flocked annually to the temples of Aranmula and Chengannur during festival seasons, as also those who frequented the markets of Sastampuram and Kollakadavu from Haripad and other places.

2. *Kutilil thodu.*—The Member requested that that *thodu* might be deepened and it might be connected with the Tana *thodu*.

3. *The road leading from Kartikapalli to Putupalli, Ochira and other places.* The Member said that the road stood in need of improvement.

4. *The Kartikapalli-Trikkunnapuzha road.* The Member prayed that the road might be rendered fit for cart traffic.

5. The Member also prayed that Alleppey might be connected by railway with [illegible] Kottarakara, and that the railway line be so constructed as to pass through [illegible]ed on the [illegible]apalli taluk.

Dewan's reply.—I will devote special attention to all the matters that you have represented.

74. Means of communications in the Tiruvalla taluk.

Mr. Narayana Kaimal Nilakanta Kaimal (Member, Tiruvalla Taluk) dealt with the needs of his taluk under the following three heads, *viz.*, (1) Government roads, (2) ryots' roads, and (3) village roads and foot-paths.

The Member said that, in the case of Government roads, several bridges and culverts had to be constructed so as to render them fit for traffic, *e.g.*, the bridges on the Tiruvalla-Mavelikara road, and the bridge on the Tiruvalla-Mepral road at Peringara. The work of the Puvanakkadavu-Cherukolepuzha road which was stopped for some unknown reason should be taken up, and the unfinished culverts on the 4th, 5th and 6th miles of the road completed.

(2) The Member prayed that the following village roads might be taken up [illegible] maintenance by the Department of Public Works :—

(*a*) Jacob road from the 3rd mile of Puvanakkadavu-Cherukolepuzha [illegible]d to Kottangal, 2nd section *i. e.* the road from the Kulattur stream to Kottangal [illegible]ream, 2 miles in length ;

(*b*) the road from Kulattur stream to Perumpatti ; and

(*c*) the road from Puvanakkadavu to Turuttikad.

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